

75 YEARS OF SOLIDARITY AND ACHIEVEMENT

It is my honour to congratulate United Steelworkers Local 1944 on the occasion of your celebrations of 75 years of solidarity and achievement on behalf of your membership, your communities and the Canadian labour movement.

From the very beginning, following the historic Charter granted to the Federation of Telephone Workers in 1944, your union has built a tremendous legacy of fighting to defend good jobs and demand respect and dignity for workers.

Through challenging economic times, corporate and political assaults on your rights and hard-fought gains, Local 1944 members past and present stood strong together. Your legacy also is marked by the generosity and contributions of your members in giving back and building stronger communities.

One of the proudest moments in our union's history was the decision by Local 1944 members to merge with the USW, creating a strong, progressive and more diverse union to serve the interests of our membership and working people across our country.

Steelworkers across Canada and the United States salute the members of Local 1944 for 75 years of solidarity and achievement and we will stand proudly with you in taking on the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

— Ken Neumann, USW National Director for Canada



MEET KEN NEUMANN, USW NATIONAL DIRECTOR FOR CANADA

Representing 225,000 United Steelworkers members across the country, Ken Neumann has served as National Director for Canada since 2004, winning re-election in 2005, 2009, 2012, 2014 and 2017. Ken has been instrumental in building USW's grassroots political power across Canada and facilitating mergers and organizing efforts to allow the union to continue to grow.

Ken has fought hard for equality, justice and prosperity for working people. His commitment to social democratic principles has forged the union's strong partnership with Canada's New Democratic Party. He has also taken on a global leadership role in the struggle for workers' rights and social justice.

Ken is a passionate advocate for the dignity and independence of injured and disabled workers. He is Co-Chair of the National Institute for Disability Management and Research and he helped develop Pacific Coast University for Workplace Health Sciences, the first university of its kind.

MEET MARTY WARREN, USW DISTRICT 6 DIRECTOR

Marty Warren became Director of USW District 6, representing Steelworkers in Ontario and Atlantic Canada, in 2013. He was re-elected in 2014 and 2017. Marty's labour activism began as a member of the United Rubber Workers in his hometown of Kitchener, Ont. In 1995 he became a proud Steelworker following the merger between the Rubber Workers and USW.

Marty is a consensus-builder who doesn't shy away from tackling the daunting challenges facing unions, our members and all workers. As District 6 Director, one of Marty's top priorities has been to build on the USW's impressive track record of political activism to improve the lives of working people.

"Together we can and will make a difference, at the bargaining table, in our workplaces and in our communities. We will work together with our political allies to push governments at all levels for change that makes life better for workers and that builds stronger communities."



A REMARKABLE HISTORY WORTHY OF RECOGNITION

On behalf of USW members across District 6, it is my pleasure to congratulate the membership of Local 1944 on your 75th anniversary celebrations.

Local 1944 has a remarkable history worthy of celebration and recognition. From your beginnings as the Federation of Telephone Workers, you have built a proud record of achievement for generations of members and their families and communities. Your historic contributions to the labour movement include being at the forefront of some of the earliest efforts to organize and to fight for rights, respect and better working conditions for women in Canadian workplaces.

Over the decades, your Union expanded into areas beyond traditional telephone service, becoming the voice for thousands of telecommunications workers and workers in related fields. You have confronted numerous challenges, always standing together to defend good jobs and decent working conditions. Local 1944 has built a proud and enduring legacy in your workplaces and your communities. You continue to serve as a positive vision for workers and the labour movement. Congratulations on your 75th anniversary! — Marty Warren, USW District 6 Director



MEMBER OF THE MONTH: VANESSA MCNALLY



It takes courage to rescue a stranger in need of help, especially when fentanyl is involved, which triggers fears and prejudice. Vanessa McNally is a Shop Steward from Unit 203 and a dedicated activist. On July 10, 2019, Sister McNally and another individual helped save a person's life who was dying of an overdose in Calgary. We acknowledge her selflessness and are proud to call her a Local 1944 member. This is her story.

NARCAN KITS ARE PROVIDED FREE AT THE PHARMACY

I have since gotten a Narcan kit from a pharmacy, they are provided free by the government which is great! There are two types of Narcan though made by the same company, one is a kit that is free, it contains 3 vials of the drug, 3 hypodermic needles, gloves, alcohol wipes and a face guard for CPR. It is a very nice, but also intimidating kit.

There is another option which is a one-shot nasal spray that comes two per box, it seems very user-friendly and even if the person is not breathing, the medicine can be absorbed through the skin in the nasal passage; this kit seems much less intimidating to me. With my benefits covering \$60, I would still have had to pay \$120 for that option though.

DON'T BE AFRAID TO HELP

I have no previous specific training for using Narcan or assisting in case of an overdose. People are afraid to help because they are scared of fentanyl. Please, don't! It feels good to help a person in danger of death, and I felt better for stepping up and having tried to save this person.

— Submitted by Vanessa McNally, Unit 203 Shop Steward

"I have heard that Telus is reluctant to stock the drug in first aid kits and I wonder if the nasal spray option would be better. If we had something available in a first aid kit, we could have revived the person a lot sooner. I have also enquired about getting first aid training through Telus; the company says they are going to make it happen, but I don't know any dates yet."

"WHAT CAN I DO, HOW CAN I HELP?!"

On Wednesday, July 10, 2019, I went for a break with my off hours manager Nicole Bennett in the evening. When we arrived in the alley behind the Len Werry building, there was a man suffering from a fentanyl overdose. A friend of his was trying to help him breathe, but as we got closer it was apparent he hadn't taken a breath in some time. He was very still and all shades of blue and purple. A girl rode up on her bike who also knew him and said she had Narcan, she had two vials that they administered to him. I asked "What can I do, how can I help?!"

"IT TOOK FOUR DOSES OF NARCAN TO GET HIM TO BREATHE AGAIN"

My manager was on the phone with security and another gentleman was on the phone with 911. The victim's friend told me to rub his sternum hard with my knuckles and just keep doing that, I rubbed so hard I took my skin off! In the end, it took four doses of Narcan to get him to breathe again and it was a span of about five minutes where he wasn't breathing or responsive. By the time the ambulance arrived, he was breathing and trying to sit up.

When you pick up a Narcan kit at the pharmacy, ask for instructions to get a better understanding of how to use it.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS



Unit 207 Chair Marion Bennett and Local Union Representative Joe Benn with Ali, Carolyn, Cole, Gurpreet, Kehvna, Mohammad and Nicholas signed their applications for membership on Friday, July 19, 2019, in Edmonton. A warm welcome to Unit 207!

Telus re-opened a call center in Edmonton on Friday, July 19, 2019. Operator Service had been a long part of the telephone company's history in Edmonton (EDTel, AGT) going back to the early 1900's. The Operator Service Division was first to link hands with Craft workers here and form a Union. When Retail Operator Service (ROS) was all but phased out over successive contract negotiations, Edmonton also closed its Competitive Operator Services (COS) office. COS is Appendix C of the Collective Agreement with Telus.

Edmonton now has a call center to be able to train and draw potential new Customer Service Assistants which is the Customer Escalations / Frontline Support for all of Telus' COS operations globally. CSA remains in appendix A as one of the last pieces of ROS remaining within Telus.

Unit 207 Chair Marion Bennett and myself attended a New Hire Orientation to sign up all seven of these new COS Call Answer Agents. I would like to welcome to Unit 207 and to the extended USW National Local 1944; Ali, Carolyn, Cole, Gurpreet, Kehvna, Mohammad and Nicholas, all of whom signed their applications for membership with three signing on additionally to the TWU-USW Employee Life and Health Plan (for more information on the Plan, see page 3).

— Submitted by Joe Benn, Local Union Representative for Alberta

Spread the word to people you know who work in telecom: they too deserve a voice in what's happening to their job and sector.
Info at <https://usw1944.ca/join-us>

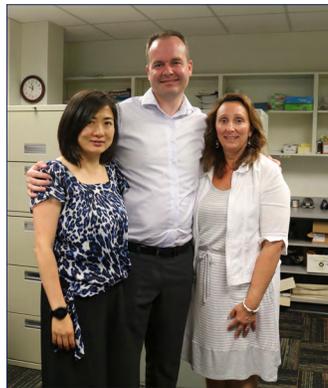
CHANGES IN THE LOCAL UNION'S STAFF

GOOD LUCK, NANCY!

Nancy Wang had started her bookkeeper position with Local 1944 at the head office in Burnaby, BC, in October 2018.

"I was amazed at how quickly Nancy learned her job when she first came on, especially with no full-time accountant to teach her, and she has been a fantastic resource ever since," said Michael Phillips, Secretary-Treasurer. "Nancy has been lovely to work with and will be missed. Congratulations, Nancy."

Sister Wang has accepted a position at another Union and left our Local on August 16. On behalf of the Local Union, good luck on your future endeavours, Nancy!



WELCOME TO MELISSA

Melissa Lasaleta is our newest Administrative Assistant, working at the Burnaby head office since July 29.

Sister Lasaleta has most recently worked at the First Nations Health Authority and worked for many years at Vancouver Coastal Health. She has been a CUPE Shop Steward and picket captain, and is eager to start working for the labour movement.

We are very happy to welcome Melissa among our staff members and wish her

good luck as she settles in.

BENEFIT PLAN

The TWU-USW Employee Life and Health Plan is a non-profit trust established by the TWU. The Plan provides group insurance coverage for Local 1944 members at a reasonable cost. Benefits for Temporary and Term Employees include Group Life Insurance and Survivor Income Benefits. Benefits for Regular Employees include Group Life Insurance, Survivor Income Benefits, and Short-Term Disability Benefits. It also provides unique coverage, like the survivor income benefit that is extremely rare in the current insurance market.

ALL MEMBERS ARE NOW ELIGIBLE TO APPLY!

For more information, please visit www.twplans.com or contact Barbie Havill at barbie.havill@twplans.com.

BEHIND THE SCENES

On July 9, 2019, Jennifer Bucholtz, Plan Administrator, was invited by National President Isabelle Miller to make a presentation of the TW-EHLP Plan to the National Executive Board. Sister Bucholtz will visit all Unit meetings in the fall via our web conferencing system Zoom. Donna Hokiro will coordinate sisters Bucholtz and Denise Chisholm, REO for BC, to help them make arrangements for the Plan to visit other USW Locals and conferences in the future.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Local 1944 is proud to announce the purchase of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) for our head office in Burnaby, earlier this month.

According to the Canadian Heart and Stroke Foundation, more than 45,000 Canadian lives are lost each year due to cardiac arrest. Defibrillation, combined with CPR can increase chances of survival by 175%. We urge our larger employer workplaces to purchase AEDs as well, as making defibrillators easily accessible can save workers.



T-shirts sizes S to 4XL

Visit our online store!

Show your Union Pride with Local 1944 clothing and accessories. Wear loudly and proudly.

<http://1944.fyi/shop>



EDUCATION: DISTRICT 3 SUMMER SCHOOL 2019

The course that I've had the privilege of attending is Leadership for Action, taught by Dana Faul and Jeff Bromley. Both teachers had a lot of varying experiences and wisdom to share with the classroom that helped drive conversation. The content is taught in a way that encourages activities, practicing developing new skills, networking amongst students, and engages debates and discussions that bring about new ideas.

For the course that I attended specifically, a lot of the content was very relatable in terms of building discussion around what a successful Union and efficient Leader looks like, varying styles of leadership, how important being inclusive is, and what members look for in a Leader today. We also gained knowledge and shared experiences around successfully campaigning, representing membership, and what to consider when going through a decision-making process.

You can expect to meet teachers from all different areas of the Union, hear presentations from campaigns and initiatives such as Be More Than A Bystander, and the Humanity Fund, as well as hear from special guests. As Steve Hunt, Director of District 3, explained to us during a packed evening of presentations, the reason behind being in close quarters in a remote area is to drive solidarity and networking. As students, we lean on each other to gain knowledge and skills that we can take back to our Locals.

What I've really taken away from my experience in Kimberley is that District 3 Summer School isn't just about learning relevant Union-related course materials; it's the networking, building solidarity, and sharing of experiences and ideas amongst various individuals and Locals across Canada. I flew back home with some knowledge and new ideas that I was eager to share with my Unit, and an appreciation of having this amazing opportunity and experience.

Thank you for supporting my educational opportunities and growth over the past couple of years. I appreciate having these amazing opportunities to develop myself, network, and gain knowledge and skills that will help me as an activist today and in the future. — *Genevieve Wojdyga, Unit 213*

In June 2019, I had attended the District 3 Summer School Leadership for Activists course. I had wanted to go to learn how to be a better leader and step out of my comfort zone.

Through our shared experiences, there is a solidarity, and we have been through the same type of things with our various workplaces. We learned how to be effective leaders and begin a campaign. It all begins with communication and listening to what our brothers and sisters want.

We learned there are many different kinds of leaders and to analyze ourselves to find out what kind of leader we are. We also learned that it is our job as leaders to build our membership and the confidence of those coming after.

The class took me out of my comfort zone and inspired me to be a leader and a better activist. It helped me build my confidence by sharing my own experiences and participating more than I normally would have. — *Pamela Garding-Smith, Unit 203*

Local 1944 members benefit from education opportunities

"I cannot imagine our Local building on labour activism without first providing education to as many of our members as possible," said Isabelle Miller, National President. "As Local 1944 continues to progress, we have been registering dozens of members to conferences, different courses and programs. As we aim at reinvigorating and engaging our membership, we will provide a lot more educational opportunities along the road to help our members further develop their skills as labour activists. Why is it so important to us? Because we need to ensure that our future leaders receive the education they need. This commitment to providing more educational opportunities forms part of our Local's core strategic plan. We ensure it is being carried out every day to the benefit of you, the membership."



Watch the D3 Summer School video <http://1944.fyi/D3-SSchool2019>



District 3 Summer School in Kimberley is an informative and empowering experience. Being surrounded by activists from across industry sectors allows us to learn from other Locals successes. Coming together gives us new tools and ideas to fight for the rights and issues that are important to our membership.

I attended the Next Gen workshop being led by Staff rep Jessie Uppal. Throughout the week we discussed issues that affect young and new workers and how we can encourage them to become active in the Union. We also met with Director Steve Hunt and formed a plan for the future of the Next Gen program at a District level.

The most inspiring presentation at Summer School was the Humanity Fund presentation. The Humanity Fund is a charity funded by USW member contributions. They support international development projects, provide emergency humanitarian aid for disasters around the world, supports food banks across Canada, and offers an education program for Steelworkers' members. — *Katelyn Naylor, Unit 4*

EXPERIENCES FROM OUR LDS LEVEL 1 STUDENTS

It was a huge honour to be selected by District 3 Director Steve Hunt to attend USW's Leadership Development Scholarship Program at Linden Hall near Pittsburgh. The course lasts one week per year for 4 years and I was amazed at how great the first year was. The point of the program is to teach USW activists from throughout North America the skills they need to be the kind of leaders that USW members deserve to have: leaders they can be proud of and who fight effectively for their rights.

Because the week of our classes happened to be the week that several new USW International Executive Board Officers were sworn in, including our new USW International President Tom Conway who is replacing retired International President Leo Gerard, the LDS class was invited to attend the installation of Officers. I was very impressed by the selflessness that Brother Gerard demonstrated in his speech. Virtually the whole speech was about praising others he has worked with, whether it was Mexican labour hero Napoleon Gomez, Brother Conway, his assistants, his other staff etc. His speech was a final reminder that he believes Unionism is about "We", not "I".

Brother Conway's speech covered a variety of challenges the Union is facing, from contracting out, to resource prices, to offshoring, to automation, etc. He even spoke at length about the threat of Artificial Intelligence replacing human work. The impression I got from him was that he is a very strategic thinker and that our Union is in good hands.

In the classroom, we explored the challenge that Union leaders have in explaining to members on a day-to-day basis what the Union is doing for them. It's easy as Union leaders to get drowned in the everyday work of trying to move the Union forward, but without communicating what the Union is doing and why effectively to members, we're not getting anywhere. Local 1944's revamped 1944@Work magazine is an attempt to do this better.

We practiced a bit of public speaking to make sure that we were able to communicate effectively to members. It was really inspiring to see some members who were terrified at public speaking improve greatly throughout the week. One member who was literally shaking on Monday gave the Class President speech on Friday and did a great job.

One of the highlights for me was the fact that we had 3 students in our class from Los Mineros, a mining Union in Mexico and partner of USW, that has struggled against government and company violence just to allow its members human rights and fair pay. No labour struggle seems unwinnable when you hear from these activists how they have withstood seeing Union leaders murdered by thugs and yet they still remain organized and solid. I had heard that LDS was a great program but I was truly amazed. Knowing that hundreds of members take this program each year tells me that our Union is doing great work throughout North America and that employers have met their match in the USW. — *Michael Phillips, Secretary-Treasurer*



Which topic inspired you the most? I had the privilege of witnessing, alongside my LDS class, the installation of our new USW International Executive. We talk about being diverse and inclusive as a Union, and it was great to see this shift taking place at the executive level, where we've gained two women. As a younger activist within the Next Gen bracket in a call centre role, it was a relief to see that our new executive is focused on important topics that are affecting our younger generations, such as AI becoming a concern for future jobs.

Our teachers were also inspiring as they made our learning environment diverse, interactive and exciting. They were equally supportive, drove engaging conversations, and encouraged us to learn from one another.

What did you learn that could help members in their workplace/communities? The theme was unity: how to bridge between what's important to our members, and to our Union. We need to be inclusive, have a strong presence, work together, and be relatable. If we work together, we can achieve a great many things in our workplaces and communities.

Would you encourage other members to attend this Program? With the report that I'm putting together, I'm hoping to inspire other activists to get on LDS. We haven't been given as many educational opportunities up until recently with our merger with the USW, and education is so important in developing ourselves as Union activists, future leaders, and as individuals. Other activists should know that getting on the program is achievable. It was just in 2016 that I had taken

my first course ever, which was the basic shop steward course, and I've been on an upward trajectory since then.

Did the Program change your view over leadership and union activism? I've noticed that USW educational opportunities share a similar cohesive message. Year 1 of LDS taught me more about myself as an activist and future leader. I have learned through the public speaking portions that we are our worst critics as individuals, and that over time, we each find our own style to communicate and lead. It's important to network, engage our membership, and be inclusive as a future leader. We need to understand what our members want and how to relate and bridge this to what our Union needs to thrive and move forward cohesively and effectively.

Does the LDS Program require you to take some actions? As a LDS student, it's expected of me to get involved in my Union and community through good works. While I'm naturally a very engaged individual and already organize yearly BBQs for our Unit, as well as fundraise and volunteer for a local horse rescue, Bear Valley Rescue, I wanted to make sure that I equally gave back in my first year of the LDS program. The Union is investing its time, educational opportunities, and money into my growth as a future leader, which I'm incredibly grateful for. This year, I've taken my engagement a step further, signed up for Steelworkers Vote and learned about effectively campaigning and volunteered in April, while simultaneously volunteering for and supporting fellow Steelworker Steve Durrell's campaign for NDP MLA in the Airdrie-Cochrane riding. I've also volunteered for the Ride to Conquer Cancer Alberta with the Steel on Wheels (see page 8). — *Genevieve Wojdyga, Unit 213*



WILL THE COMPANY
BE FRIENDLY WITH
YOUR FUTURE?

HAVE YOU STARTED SAVING FOR 2021?

The current Telus collective agreement expires on December 31, 2021, at which time it will be renegotiated. No one wants a labour dispute, but if one did happen, would you be financially ready?

TODAY IS THE TIME TO GET PREPARED!

If you start saving
\$100*
per paycheque
you will have
over **\$9,000**

*Do not let the company hold all the power during the next round of bargaining.
Do not let the threat of a labour dispute decide your future.*

STAND UP, FIGHT BACK.

* This amount is recommended on the basis of an average \$3,000 monthly expenditures for a household, for a maximum of 6 month-strike, and taking into account the weekly \$200 USW strike pay and how many pay days are left in the contract.

**IT'S NEVER TOO LATE, BUT
IT'S IMPORTANT TO START.**

FIGHTING FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

MEMBERS OF LOCAL 1944'S CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE ATTENDED THE USW INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS 2019 CONFERENCE

On July 21–25, 2019, six of our members attended the Civil and Human Rights Conference in Minneapolis, MN: Candace Knoll, Unit 51; Keller Reeves, Unit 60; William Clarke, Unit 207; Kelly Barron, Unit 501; Widmarc Innocent, Unit 602. Tricia Watt, Local Union Representative, was also in attendance.



From left to right: Windmarc Innocent, Kelly Barron, Candace Knoll, Tricia Watt and Keller Reeves

Local 1944: What motivated you to attend the conference?

Kelly Barron: "I am not content with the way the world looks at this time in history. I think that some things need to change. So going to the Conference to find ideas on how to activate my Local and my Unit seemed like a good idea."

Which speaker or panel inspired you the most and why?

KB: "On the afternoon of July 23, I walked into the wrong Marquette and waited for the workshop 'How to be a True LGBTQ+ Ally' to start. If you know me, this won't surprise you. I was in the wrong Marquette, and that's how, that afternoon, ended up learning about the Crisis for Workers in Puerto Rico. The young lady presenting, Jessica Rios Viner, was angry, so angry. She spoke with passion and conviction. The people of Puerto Rico were protesting in the streets as we were in this workshop. The governor would not step down and the people were having none of it. They wanted him gone. They were able to apply such sustained pressure that the Governor resigned on July 24, after 11 days of protests. The people got their way and proved that with solidarity, the people can win."

Which issues are you particularly interested in?

KB: "Delee Nikal presented a workshop called 'Not One More'. It was about Missing and murdered Indigenous Women and Girls in Canada. Delee brought a raw reality to this issue. It was painful to listen to how our government and our law enforcement is failing a section of our people."

What did you learn?

KB: "So much. I learned about struggles I didn't know existed. I learned that with solidarity, anything can be accomplished."

What important information do you think other members should know that would help them in their workplace and communities?

KB: "If we stand together, we hold the power; we are the power."

What actions will the Civil and Human Rights Committee implement in the months to come?

KB: "With the assistance of my Executive, I will be searching for projects to bring to our Unit so that we, as a group, can help our communities. I want our communities to know that they have Steelworkers amongst them."

WHY WE SHOW OUR PRIDE

Local 1944 supports our LGBTQ members in their struggles. We firmly believe that all individuals should be treated with equal respect, and enjoy equal dignity and freedom. It's up to each of us to continue to change mentalities and build safe work environments for all of our members.

The fight against inequality and discrimination is at the core of the labour movement, especially when injustices affect minorities. An injustice that affects one affects us all. Pride events are the opportunity to support human rights, and to join in the celebration of love and diversity with family and friends!

"I really enjoyed myself, it was wonderful to be a part of a celebration of love and tolerance. It was my first Pride event and definitely not the last, the crowds were amazing and supportive. The costumes were spectacular!" — Jayson Little, REO and USW District 3 Intern-Staff Rep

Send us photos of your participation in Pride events at photos@usw1944.ca



Vancouver Pride Parade, BC



Steve McWhirter, Michael Phillips, Jayson Little

See more 2019 Pride pictures at <https://flic.kr/s/aHsmFWgtC1>

OUR MEMBERS GIVE BACK

UNIT 60 GOLF TOURNAMENT

Unit 60 Annual Golf Tournament was once again a tremendous success. It took place at the Surrey Golf Course, BC. We had guests from IUOE Local 115, UA Local 516, ILWU Local 502, IBEW Local 213, USW Locals 1944, 2009 and Unit 60 members, past and present.

The event started with a "putt off" with proceeds going to the [David Podworny Scholarship Fund](#), with winner Sean Royds donating his winnings back to the Fund. A wonderful round of golf and fun times was had by all. The day was capped off with a buffet dinner, door prizes, 50/50 winner Kevin Mckavanagh donating his winnings to the David Podworny Fund and lots of smiles and solidarity.

— Submitted by Jayson Little,
Regional Executive Officer for BC and Unit 60 Shop Steward

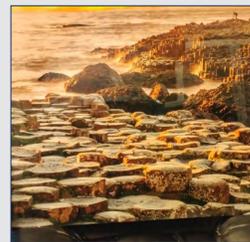


HAPPY RETIREMENT!

On Friday, July 12, 2019, I had the honour of thanking three members of Unit 60 for their solidarity as they retired: Bryon Kidd, JoJo Tabana and Jim Ding. After the presentations were done by myself and the company, Shaw, Brother Ding had a presentation for us! He is a very sweet man and he thanked the Local Union for always being there. He presented a photo of the Giant's Causeway in Ireland, and he said: **"The rocks all being together to form strength are like the Union: A solid force that means unity."**

"Thank you Union, I will always be a part of you," said Jim Ding.

— Submitted by Tamara Marshall,
Local Union Representative for BC



OUR STEEL ON WHEELS TEAM VOLUNTEERED AND RODE TO CONQUER CANCER!

Since 2009, the Alberta Cancer Foundation has been raising donations through The Ride. This year, this was a 206 km bike ride that gathered 1,255 Riders in Southern Alberta, amongst which our Steel on Wheels Team. All Riders combined raised \$5.9 million in support of cancer research in Alberta. Over \$80 million were raised since the first Ride.

Our Steel on Wheels Team beats its own fundraising goal!

The idea of participating in The Ride 2019 was initiated by Sheila Brown-Eckersley from Unit 203, who was a Rider and Team

Captain. Paul Eckersley from Unit 213 and James Cale from Unit 203 registered as Riders as well. Juanita West, Local Union Representative for Alberta, Genevieve Wojdyga, Vice-Chair for Unit 213, Bianca Tharani from Unit 213, and Gregory Kadey, from Unit 204, registered as Volunteers. Together, they raised \$8,088, beating the team's set goal of \$7,500! Congratulations to our epic Steel on Wheels members!

Registrations are already opened for The Ride 2020 in Alberta. Check out our Team's page at <https://usw1944.ca/ride>.

"The Ride is a challenge, you do need to train, but it is doable," said Sheila Brown-Eckersley, who has been a Rider since 2009 and was our Team's Captain this year. "It is a fully supported ride, so you get support all along the way. It's a good show of solidarity. The camaraderie that surrounds you is so astonishing! Everybody is here for the same reasons: fighting cancer."

"I was a volunteer for the Canadian Red Cross for 25 years and I was looking forward to volunteering again," said Juanita West, Local Union Representative for Alberta and Crew Volunteer for The Ride 2019. "I was a Crew Volunteer this year, so I was on the bus liaisons assigned to different areas along the route, picking up Riders who needed a little boost, serving at rest and water stations, among other duties. Even though these were long 12-hour days with short nights in pop-up tents, the whole experience was exceptional. Our Riders and Volunteers were wonderful."



From left to right: James Cale, Paul Eckersley, Sheila Brown-Eckersley

More pictures at <http://1944.fyi/AB-Ride-2019-pics>



From left to right: Juanita West, Sheila Brown-Eckersley, Paul Eckersley

BE EPIC AND JOIN THE ADVENTURE IN 2020!

Contact us now to join our Steel on Wheels Team:
theride-ab@usw1944.ca